



P.B. 5818 - Patentlaan 2  
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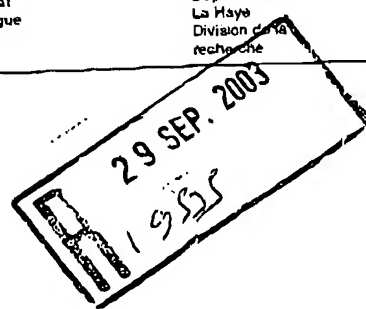
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BB 47448

Anmeldung Nr./Application No./Demande n°//Patent Nr./Patent No./Brevet n°  
02003168.8-2111/

Anmelder/Applicant/Demandeur//Patentinhaber/Proprietor/Titulaires  
Tosoh Corporation

## COMMUNICATION

The European Patent Office herewith transmits the partial European search report under Rule 46(1) EPC relating to the above-mentioned European patent application.

Copies of the documents cited in the search report are enclosed.

The applicant's attention is drawn to the following:

The search Division informs the applicant that if the European search report is also to cover inventions other than the invention first mentioned in the claims, a further search fee must be paid for each of these inventions, within ONE MONTH after notification of this communication.

If the application has been filed up to 30 June 1999, the search fee in force before 01 July 1999 (EUR 869,-) or the equivalent applicable on the date of payment is payable.  
This applies also to the search fees requested under Rule 46(1) EPC.  
See also OJ EPO 06/1999, 405.

- ☐ The abstract was modified by the Search Division and the definitive text is attached to the present communication.
- ☐ Additional set(s) of copies of the documents cited in the European search report is (are) enclosed as well.



## Note to users of the automatic debiting procedure:

Unless the EPO receives prior instructions to the contrary, the search fee(s) will be debited on the last day of the period for payment. For further details see the Arrangements for the automatic debiting procedure, Supplement to OJ EPO 02/1999.



The Search Division considers that the present European patent application does not comply with the requirements of unity of invention and relates to several inventions or groups of inventions, namely:

1. Claims: 1-4 , 7-18

A lithium-manganese complex oxide as in claims 1-4 and the process for producing it (claims 7-14), a lithium secondary battery incorporating the same (claims 15-18) .

2. Claims: 5-6

A Mn-M complex oxide slurry according to claims 5-6



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**PARTIAL EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT**  
under Rule 46, paragraph 1 of the European Patent  
Convention

Application Number

EP 02 00 3168

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim
X	DATABASE WPI Section Ch, Week 200340 Derwent Publications Ltd., London, GB; Class L03, AN 2002-619683 XP002245936 * abstract * & EP 1 281 207 A 5 February 2003 (2003-02-05) ---	1-4,7-18
X	DATABASE WPI Section Ch, Week 200335 Derwent Publications Ltd., London, GB; Class E31, AN 2003-367770 XP002245937 & JP 2003 081638 A (JAPAN METALS & CHEM CO LTD), 19 March 2003 (2003-03-19) * abstract * ---	1-4,7-18
X	EP 0 814 524 A (MURATA MANUFACTURING CO) 29 December 1997 (1997-12-29) * page 3, line 28 * * table 2 * --- -/--	1-4,7-18
		CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.Cl.7)
		C01G45/00
		TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.7)
		C01G
LACK OF UNITY OF INVENTION		
The Search Division considers that the present European patent application does not comply with the requirements of unity of invention and relates to several inventions or groups of inventions, namely:		
see sheet B		
The present partial European search report has been drawn up for those parts of the European patent application which relate to the invention first mentioned in the claims.		
4	Place of search MUNICH	Date of completion of the search 11 July 2003
		Examiner Arnotte, E
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS		
T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document		

EPO FORM 1503 03 02 (P04C27)



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# PARTIAL EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number  
EP 02 00 3168

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.Cl.7)
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	
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**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT  
ON EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION NO.**

EP 02 00 3168

This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned European search report.  
The members are as contained in the European Patent Office EDP file on  
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11-07-2003

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